



Myakka River Alligator Hunting

- Historically, hunting and poaching had decimated their population and the American alligator was listed as an [endangered species](#) by the [Endangered Species Act of 1973](#). Subsequent conservation efforts have allowed their numbers to increase and the species was removed from the list in 1987. Alligators are now harvested for their skins and meat. The species is the official [state reptile](#) of three states: [Florida](#), [Louisiana](#) and [Mississippi](#)



- Since 1988, Florida's statewide alligator harvest has been nationally and internationally recognized as a model program for the sustainable use of a natural resource. Each year, alligator management units are established with appropriate harvest quotas to provide recreational opportunities for Floridians and non-residents who are at least 18 years old to take up to 2 alligators per permit. Applicants who are awarded a permit must submit payment for two CITES tags and an Alligator Trapping License, or provide proof of possession of an Alligator Trapping License valid through the end of the alligator harvest season. A Florida hunting license is not required to participate in the statewide alligator hunt.



- The "public alligator hunt" is one of our most popular limited entry hunts. Approximately ten thousand applicants will try for one of about five thousand permits to take two alligators during the open season that begins on August 15 and ends on November 1. The public alligator hunt occurs at night, and the harvest areas and hunt dates are specified on the permit.
- Each permit authorizes the holder to take two (2) alligators. The number of alligators to be harvested from each harvest area (quota) is determined by alligator population or habitat surveys. The permits will also specify the boundaries or limitations of the harvest area.



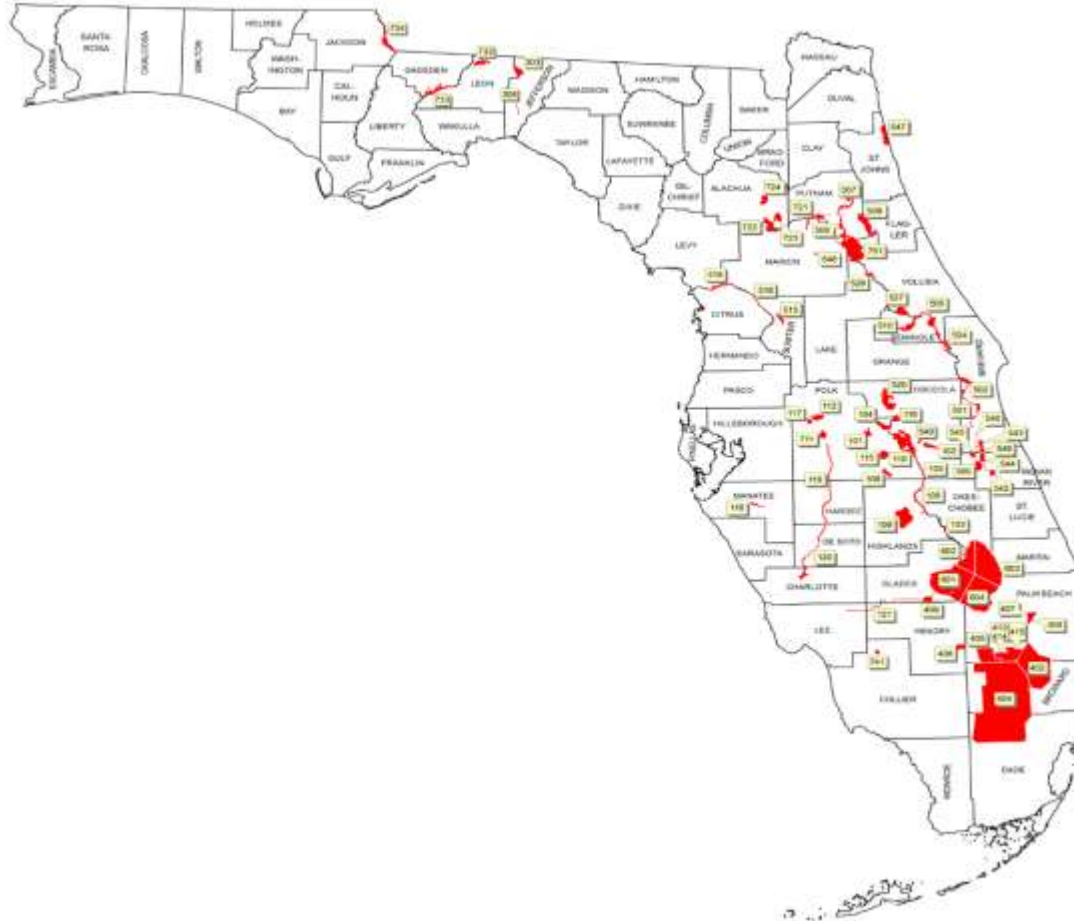
- ALL SALES ARE FINAL – THERE ARE NO REFUNDS FOR STATEWIDE ALLIGATOR PERMITS.

License and Permit Types	Permit Fee	App Fee
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| Resident Alligator Trapping License (includes 2 tags for the harvest of 2 alligators) | \$0 | \$272 |
| Non-Resident Alligator Trapping License (includes 2 tags for the harvest of 2 alligators) | \$0 | \$1,022 |
| Permit for 2 Tags (must already have an Alligator Trapping License valid through 11/1/13) | \$0 | \$62 |



Alligator Management Units – AMU's



- **WHAT IS A "COUNTY-WIDE ALLIGATOR HARVEST UNIT?"**
- It is important to note that county-wide alligator harvest units are **DIFFERENT** from the Commission's traditional alligator harvest units on public waters and wetlands. Most Florida counties are established as alligator harvest units. Individuals permitted to take alligators in the county-wide harvest units will be allowed to take two alligators from any area that they could legally access in the specified county, including public and private lands and waters, but excluding specific water bodies established as AMUs, private wetlands permitted for alligator management, and other protected public properties (exclusions are detailed below). Application and permit issuance procedures and participation requirements for the county-wide harvest units are the same as for other harvest units.



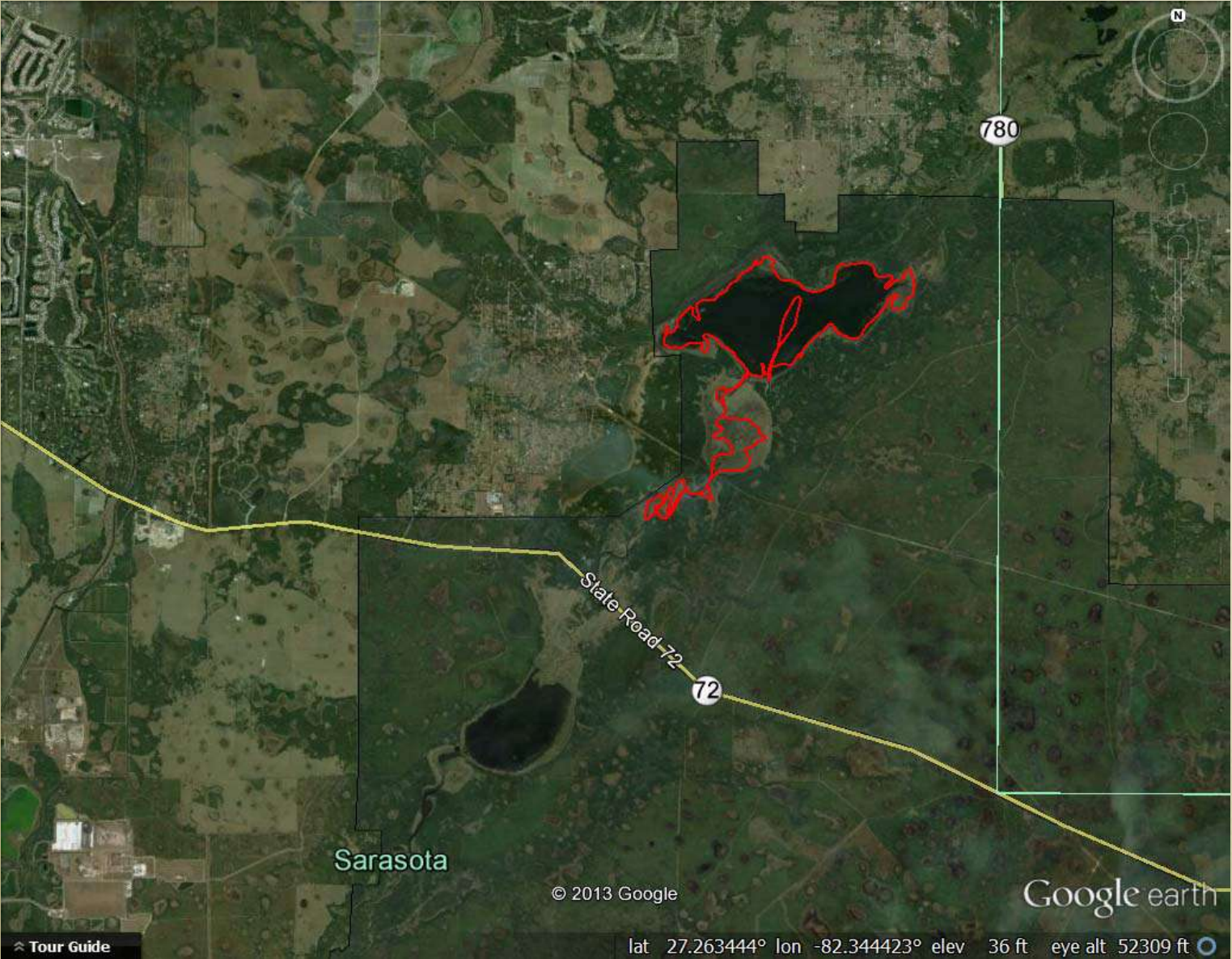
- **Management Unit #808: Charlotte County** The state- and privately-owned waters and wetlands located within Charlotte County outside of incorporated cities and municipalities that have public access or for which access has been granted for the purpose of harvesting alligators under this permit, excluding: the Peace River east of I-75; Shell Creek west of US Hwy. 17; within 400 feet of the mean-high or ordinary-high waterline or within 400 feet of emergent vegetation bordering state parks, preserves and reserves; and any private lands included in management programs governed by Rule 68A-25.032, F.A.C.
- **Management Unit #841: Manatee County** The state- and privately-owned waters and wetlands located within Manatee County outside of incorporated cities and municipalities that have public access or for which access has been granted for the purpose of harvesting alligators under this permit, excluding: the Manatee River west of Verna-Bethany Road; Gilley Creek south of CR 675; Lake Manatee; within 400 feet of the mean-high or ordinary-high waterline or within 400 feet of emergent vegetation bordering state parks, preserves and reserves; and any private lands included in management programs governed by Rule 68A-25.032, F.A.C.
- **Management Unit #856: Sarasota County** The state- and privately-owned waters and wetlands located within Sarasota County outside of incorporated cities and municipalities that have public access or for which access has been granted for the purpose of harvesting alligators under this permit, excluding: within 400 feet of the mean-high or ordinary-high waterline or within 400 feet of emergent vegetation bordering state parks, preserves and reserves and any private lands included in management programs governed by Rule 68A-25.0
- 32, F.A.C.



County-Wide Permits/Alligators

- Charlotte – 31/62
- Manatee – 62/124
- Sarasota – 4/8





Myakka Lake Alligator Population Estimates Size Class Range 1 to 14 feet, 1988 - 2012

- 1988 - 1604
- 2012 - 1280
- Projected 2013 - 1438



Monster Gator Nabbed in Myakka River



- VENICE-- One week ago today, alligator hunting season got underway here in Florida. Already, two Suncoast men have likely bagged one of the largest gators we will hear about this year.
- On Monday night, Shawn Koss and Hank Duyn managed to catch a 12ft 6 inch alligator just south of the Snook Haven Restaurant on the Myakka River. Both men are from Venice.
- "When it came up out of the water, we noticed the back was significantly longer than anything we have ever seen before. We knew we had a big one."
- After an hour fight, the gator boys finally managed to get the gator on board the 14ft boat they were riding in.
- "Pulling him in the boat was a little bit difficult. We about sunk the boat," said Koss.
- The alligator was taken to Bad to the Bone Taxidermy in East Venice where it is being prepared for its next move. Sometime soon, it will be hanging on the wall at the Snook Haven Restaurant.
- "It surprised me how big it was and I have seen a lot of big gators," said Eddie Vitale, who runs the taxidermy store. "By far, this is the biggest gator from this area."
- The gator will be donated to Snook Haven sometime within the next six months. According to Everglades National Park, the largest alligator recorded in Florida was 17ft 5inches.



Alligator Public Hunt Take in Myakka River 2003 – 2012

Charlotte (2), Manatee (15), and Sarasota (15)

- 2003 - 2
- 2004 - 5
- 2005 - 4
- 2006 - 1
- 2007 - 3
- 2008 - 3
- 2009 - 1
- 2010 - 1
- 2011 - 6
- 2012 - 6
- Total - 32



Nuisance Alligators Removed, Myakka River Area

2005 – 2012

N = 29



Questions?

